

U.S. Application No.: 10/535,157  
Amendment C  
Reply to Office Action Dated February 20, 2008

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JUL 21 2008

Attorney Docket No: 3926.150

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace paragraph [00011] with the following:

[00011] According to the invention, a method is used for sensing the surroundings in front of a road vehicle using a surroundings sensing system. In which case the surroundings sensing system may be, in particular, an infrared night vision system. In order to sense surroundings data the system comprises at least one surroundings sensor. Said sensor may be, for example, a stereo camera system, a radar sensor in conjunction with a camera, a combination of an infrared laser and a camera or an ultrasonic sensor in combination with a camera. Objects within the surroundings data sensed by the surroundings sensor are detected by processing the sensor data. In which case the region in which the objects are perceived is configured in such a way that it corresponds to a component-region of the region which is sensed by the camera. The perception region is divided according to the invention into a plurality of component-regions. Owing to the division into such perception component-regions it is then possible to subject surroundings data to a different specific evaluation. For example, the evaluation is carried out with a higher priority in a near region than in a more distant region. It is also conceivable to make different computing capabilities, for example complex, multi-stage algorithms, available for different perception regions.